



NEWS RELEASE

For Release: August 20, 2015

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Police/Citizen Audit Review Committee Releases 2nd Quarter 2015 Report

The most recent review of the Columbus Police Department by the independent, civilian investigation committee of actions during the 2nd quarter of 2015 shows officers continue to provide effective and exemplary service to the community.

From April to June of 2015 officers had 17,594 contacts with the public, making the total for the year 34,787. During the 2nd quarter three formal complaints were filed against officers, the first formal complaints of 2015. A thorough investigation into the complaints determined officers did nothing wrong and represented the city in a professional manner. Two of the investigations found department policies were properly followed. In the third, in-car video and audio helped determine that an allegation of rude behavior was untrue.

One complaint was because a back-up officer responded to another officer's traffic stop that occurred after dark. It is Columbus Police Department standard policy for a second officer to back-up another officer making a traffic stop after dark, if the second officer is on duty and available.

In 2014 the Columbus police Department was accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, the highest honor for a law enforcement agency held only by three percent of departments nationwide. "Columbus police officers are committed to providing the highest level of service to citizens in order to ensure fairness and public safety," CPD Chief Jon Rohde said. "Quarterly reviews by the Audit and Review Committee help us better understand and appreciate our relationship with the community."

The Audit and Review Committee for Citizen and Police Relations started the formal review process in 1992. The group meets quarterly to conduct an audit the police complaint process and make recommendations as necessary to improve community-police relations. The committee is made up of citizens serving as impartial and neutral fact gatherers. The members are appointed by Mayor Kristen Brown, the Human Rights Commission, a member elected by police officers and the local NAACP president.

The Audit and Review Committee gives citizens a voice and oversight of police issues that are otherwise inaccessible to the larger community. Citizen oversight ensures community members' civil rights are respected by probing issues of disparate treatment, racial profiling,

and excessive use of force in law enforcement. Under Mayor Brown's administration, citizen oversight is becoming integrated into the fabric of city government, providing additional accountability and transparency to maintain the community's trust.

"The men and women of the Columbus Police Department work extremely hard in incredibly stressful situations for the officers and those that they serve," Mayor Kristen Brown said. "They have thousands of contacts with the public every year, yet almost no formal complaints. By tracking the very few complaints our officers do receive, we are increasing the transparency of CPD and building greater trust with the community."

Description	2012	2013	2014	Q1, 2015	Q2, 2015
Number of Positive External Comments*				64	84
Number of Formal Complaints	8	22	9	-	3
Finding of Proper Conduct	-	-	1	-	2
Finding of Policy Failure	1	-	-	-	-
Finding of Training Failure	-	-	-	-	-
Finding of Other Improper Conduct	-	-	-	-	-
Finding of Insufficient Evidence	-	-	-	-	-
Finding of Unfounded	5	19	7	-	1
Finding of Partially Substantiated	2	3	1	-	-
Number of Citizen Contacts	56,452	73,956	70,905	17,193	17,594
Complaints per Contact	0.0001%	0.0002%	0.0001%	0.0000%	0.0001%

Proper Conduct- The allegation is true but the action of the department or employee is consistent with department policy.

Improper Conduct- The allegation is true and the action of the department or employee was inconsistent with department policy.

Policy Failure- The department policy is flawed or nonexistent.

Training Failure- The employee was not properly trained and was placed in a "no win" situation.

Other Improper Conduct- During the course of the investigation, allegations or evidence of misconduct were discovered and substantiated that were not originally alleged.

Insufficient Evidence- There is insufficient proof to confirm or refute the allegation.

Unfounded- Either the allegation is demonstrably false or there is no credible evidence to support it.

Partially Substantiated- The allegation is partially true and an action of the department or employee was inconsistent with department policy.

* Number of Positive External Comments Not Tracked until 2015

